

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05363 171701Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

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R 171555Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9388

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5363

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, UR, US

SUBJ: ATTENDANCE AT LENINGRAD VE DAY FUNCTIONS

1. LENINGRAD 0443, BEING REPEATED TO DEPARTMENT, ASKS FOR GUIDANCE ON ATTENDANCE AT GDR AND CZECH CONSULAR FUNCTIONS FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY.

2. EMBASSY'S OPINION ON THIS MATTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE GDR FUNCTION. THE FRG EMBASSY HERE HAS INFORMED US THAT IT "SEES NO REASON TO PARTICIPATE" IN EITHER THE GDR OR THE CZECH ACTIVITIES. WE BELIEVE THAT IN THE CASE OF THE GDR FUNCTION, THE NATURE OF THE CELEBRATION WILL BE SUCH THAT ATTENDANCE WOULD BE AWKWARD FOR US. EMBASSY CONSEQUENTLY AGREES WITH FRG MISSION HERE AND RECOMMENDS AGAINST ATTENDANCE.

(B) THE CZECH FUNCTION. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR ROLE IN THE LIBERATION OF A PART OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA MAKES OUR ATTENDANCE AT THE CZECH FUNCTION CONSIDERABLY MORE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05363 171701Z

ACCEPTABLE. ARGUMENT COULD INDEED BE MADE THAT IF WE

DO NOT SHOW UP WE ARE, AS FAR AS CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS
CONCERNED, DEFAULTING TO SOVIET CLAIMS THAT THEY
SINGLE-HANDEDLY (WELL, ALMOST) DEFEATED THE AXIS IN
WWII.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE.
IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN ATTENDANCE AT CZECH FUNCTION,
WE WILL INFORM FRG EMBASSY HERE OF OUR INTENTION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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